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classification action. 25X1

4 August 1948 25X1

Chief Engineer, FE

Okinawa Project.

1. This will acknowledge receipt of your memoranda dated 19 July and 23 July, 1948.

2. Our general feeling is that we may have some bad moments with the Okinawa project due to the way the construction will be handled. However, we believe the best procedure is to continue according to present plans and see what the bidders feel they can do the job for. One point can be taken up informally with the Engineers by you there. The point is if it would be advisable to advertise the bids for the operations construction at [redacted] separately from the housing construction near [redacted]. The advantage would be that if the bids ran too high for the whole job and they were not advertised separately, it would be necessary to re-advertise to have any part of the whole job done. If separate bids are received, and the sum runs over 1.1 million, it would be possible to award the [redacted] contract and then arrange for local engineers help with Okinawan labor to build the housing and still get the whole job done for not more than 1.1 million dollars. However, it is possible that bidders would ask more to do the whole job when bidding on the two parts separately than they would if it were all on one contract. Please explore this informally and if it seems desirable, have the bids let on the two parts separately. 25X1 25X1 25X1

The present method of handling the job as planned by the engineers seems to us not too desirable because of the following reasons:

a. If a contractor other than a reputable and well known one gets the award, he may flop the job due to insufficient experience and little knowledge of Okinawa. We would then be holding the bag. How will the engineers' experience on Okinawa be made available to the winning bidder?

b. It seems that a contractor will need more than 30 days from time of award of contract to beginning of construction. If the contractor has to procure all of his own materials for the project how will he do this and get them shipped to Okinawa in 30 days?

c. Unless largely local labor is used, we can see a considerable amount of money spent just on accumulating and demobilizing a labor force from the mainland. This is a very small job to absorb much of such cost. Is it the plan that the contractor can use Engineers's machinery already on Okinawa, or will he have to transport his own to Okinawa?

3. According to our present thinking, we do not anticipate that you will need technicians on Okinawa much before January 1, 1949. Our present authority for Okinawa covers three technicians, CAF-7, on temporary duty of six months. This period can be extended when it is seen that such extension will be necessary. Our present schedule is to start recruiting these men on or about October 1st for entrance on duty about

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December 1st so that two of them can be given training in RG-85/U cable splicing before going overseas. The third man would be sent out as soon as he enters on duty. Please keep us informed on construction phases when you get to Okinawa so that necessary changes can be made in the hiring of these men. It is well to remember that they have only provisional clearance and cannot work with or be shown material classified higher than restricted. At the same time these men would be processed for regular clearance. When their temporary duty is concluded, those that work out well for regular assignments and pass security can be offered permanent positions in the T/O or will be returned to the mainland and hired for positions at other Bureaus.

In this regard, it is requested that you contact [] to see if they will accept such positions at the indicated salaries and time. If they are interested, notify us so that their records will be placed in pending files for recruitment. Of course, the specific location of the assignment should not be made known at this time. 25X1

[] may be interviewed as a possibility against the P-3 Technician for Okinawa. However, some temporary duty will be required before anyone will be hired against this position of high responsibility. Until the Okinawa T/O is submitted and approved, no one can be recruited or hired against any position on that T/O. 25X1

It is planned that [], who is presently on Kauai, will join you as soon as he is needed on Okinawa. This should be shortly before actual assembly or installation of technical equipment is to start. He should be considered as your active assistant engineer since at present it is planned that he will take over when your assignment on Okinawa is finished. 25X1

4. In view of the definite possibility that the small amount of lathe work one of our stations will have can be done by local ordinance or machine shops, we do not feel that such an expenditure of over \$500 is justified. However, we would like to have you re-open this question at any time, indicating just how [] has used their lathe when such work could not have been done by other satisfactory means. 25X1

5. A reasonable fund for this fiscal year exists in the Okinawa equipment and technical services account. Please submit your requirements so that further requisitions can be filed for you here. In this respect I wish to notify you that more CRP38 receivers have become available and I have ordered eight more (total now 38) for Okinawa. Thus only the best of Kauai receivers will need to be shipped to you when that station closes. Also, 24-inch deep racks (both in the short racks for booths and the tall racks for the code and central radio positions) are being furnished your project.

6. We are awaiting any information you may gather relative to the [] Such information may come to you first through the Engineers. si 25X1

7. [] schedule is not known yet. More than likely he will visit []. He hopes that he will be able to go to Okinawa with you, but this may be possible only if you go by air all the way. He will probably not arrive at Sausalito while you are there. 25X1 25X1

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8. Feel free to call on us for help at any time and keep us informed on all pertinent details.

For the Chief, FBIB,

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cc: Chief, Services Branch

WMK:ns

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